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# Message Text

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PAGE 01 COLOMB 03415 280949Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SNM-05 DEAE-00 AID-05 CTME-00
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R 280831Z JUL 78
FM AMEMBASSY COLOMBO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 965
INFO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

UNCLAS COLOMBO 3415

FOR : NEA/INS JOHN MALOTT

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SNAR, CE
SUBJ: NARCOTICS COUNTRY PAPER - SRI LANKA

REF: MALOTT S NOTE OF JULY 10, 1978

1. THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IS PROVIDED AS AN UPDATE TO THE 1977 NARCOTICS COUNTRY PAPER ON SRI LANKA.
2. THERE IS GROWING SUSPICION THAT SRI LANKA WILL BE USED, IN FUTURE, AS A TRANSHIPMENT POINT FOR NARCOTICS TO THE MIDDLE-EAST, EUROPE AND ULTIMATELY TO THE U.S.
3. MORE ARTICLES ON DRUG SEIZURES IN SRI LANKA ARE APPEARING IN THE LOCAL PRESS. ALSO IN PRESS ARE ARTICLES CONCERNING SRI LANKANS ARRESTED ABROAD ON NARCOTICS CHARGES. THESE CLIPP-INGS WERE FORWARDED BY AIRGRAM TO THE DEPARTMENT.
4. ANOTHER PROBLEM IS THE INCREASED NUMBER OF FOREIGNERS VISIT-ING SRI LANKA WHO ARE BEING ARRESTED ON NARCOTICS TRAFFICKING CHARGES. ON 7/24/78 AN AMERICAN WAS DETAINED BY CUSTOMS ON CHARGES OF RECEIVING HASHISH THROUGH THE MAILS FROM A SOURCE IN NEPAL. THE AMERICAN WAS RELEASED A SHORT TIME LATER ON PAYMENT OF A FINE. ANOTHER RECENT CASE INVOLVED THE SMUGGLING OF HASHISH INTO SRI LANKA BY A CANADIAN AND BRITISH CITIZEN.
5. AS EVIDENCE OF THE GSL S CONTINUED INTEREST IN THE NARCOTICS
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EFFORT, THEY PROPOSE TO HOST A NARCOTICS CONFERENCE IN NOVEMBER. NO DEFINITE DATE HAS BEEN SET. UNDER THE NEW UNP GOVERNMENT, THERE HAS BEEN A RENEWED INTEREST BY LOCAL NARCOTICS ENFORCEMENT OFFICIALS IN OBTAINING TRAINING FROM THE USG EITHER IN THE UNITED STATES OR IN SRI LANKA.
6. SUMMARY: THERE APPEARS TO BE AN INCREASE IN NARCOTICS ACTIVITY, PARTICULARLY TRAFFICKING. POST WILL CONTINUE TO PROVIDE PERIODIC

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REPORTS AND NEWS CLIPS ON A REGULAR BASIS CONCERNING THIS SITUATION. UNLIKE THE PREVIOUS GOVERNMENT WHICH WAS UNWILLING TO ACCEPT NARCOTICS TRAINING FROM THE U.S., THE PRESENT GOVERNMENT WOULD BE FAVOURABLY DISPOSED TO ANY OFFER OF NARCOTICS TRAINING.
WRIGGINS

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# Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994
**Channel Indicators:** n/a
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED
**Concepts:** NARCOTICS, PAPERS
**Control Number:** n/a
**Copy:** SINGLE
**Draft Date:** 28 jul 1978
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960
**Decaption Note:**
**Disposition Action:** n/a
**Disposition Approved on Date:**
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a
**Disposition Comment:**
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**Disposition Event:**
**Disposition History:** n/a
**Disposition Reason:**
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**Enclosure:** n/a
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